

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for testing a solar panel including, at least, both a solar cell and an outer housing, the method comprising:

performing one of a withstand voltage test and an insulation resistance test between a live electrical section electrically connected to the solar cell and a conductor section of the outer housing, and thereafter

applying a voltage between the live electrical section and the conductor section.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the voltage applied between the live electrical section and the conductor section is an alternating current voltage.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the outer housing is a bottom surface reinforcement member for reinforcing the bottom surface of the solar panel.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the solar panel comprises a metal plate.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the metal plate is a stainless steel sheet.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the voltage applied between the live electrical section and the conductor section of the outer housing is fed from a utility power line.

7. A method for inspecting a solar panel generating system including a solar panel including, at least, both a solar cell and an outer housing, the method comprising:

performing one of a withstand voltage test and an insulation resistance test between a live electrical section electrically connected to the solar cell and a conductor section of the outer housing, and thereafter

applying a voltage between the live electrical section and the conductor section.

8. An apparatus for testing a solar panel including, at least, both a solar cell and an outer housing, the apparatus comprising:

a means for performing one of a withstand voltage test and an insulation resistance test between a live electrical section electrically connected to the solar cell and a conductor section of the outer housing, and

a means for applying a voltage between the live electrical section and the conductor section after the one

of the withstand voltage test and the insulation resistance test has been performed.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the voltage applied between the live electrical section and the conductor section is an alternating current voltage.

10. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the outer housing is a bottom surface reinforcement member for reinforcing the bottom surface of the solar panel.

11. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the solar panel comprises a metal plate.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the metal plate is a stainless steel sheet.

13. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the voltage applied between the live electrical section and the conductor section of the outer housing is fed from a utility power line.

14. An apparatus for inspecting a solar panel generating system including a solar panel including, at least, both a solar cell and an outer housing, the apparatus

comprising:

a means for performing one of a withstand voltage test and an insulation resistance test between a live electrical section electrically connected to the solar cell and a conductor section of the outer housing, and

a means for applying a voltage between the live electrical section and the conductor section after the one of the withstand voltage test and the insulation resistance test has been performed.

15. A method for manufacturing a solar panel including, at least, a solar cell, a surface protective covering member for encapsulating the solar cell, and an outer housing, the method comprising:

encapsulating the solar cell with the surface protective covering member;

performing one of a withstand voltage test and an insulation resistance test between a live electrical section electrically connected to the solar cell and a conductor section of the outer housing; and thereafter

applying a voltage between the live electrical section and the conductor section.

16. An insulation resistance measuring apparatus comprising a means of applying a voltage across test

terminals subsequent to an insulation test.

17. A withstand voltage tester comprising a means of applying a voltage across test terminals subsequent to a withstand voltage test.